



ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cormwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gen G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugalsky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaston
Kimberly N. Reddick

Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Shereshenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
LuAnne M. Yuricek*
John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston*

Aric W. Ledford*
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowitz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longsworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa
Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren

Victoria S. Rutherford
Eric D. Hayes
Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

January 8, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8645
INTERNET ADDRESS:
JASONE@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 2851

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/667,387; Filed: September 23, 2003
For: **Illumination System With Spatially Controllable Partial Coherence
Compensating For Line Width Variances in a Photolithographic System**
Inventors: McCullough *et al.*
Our Ref: 1857.1040003

Sir:

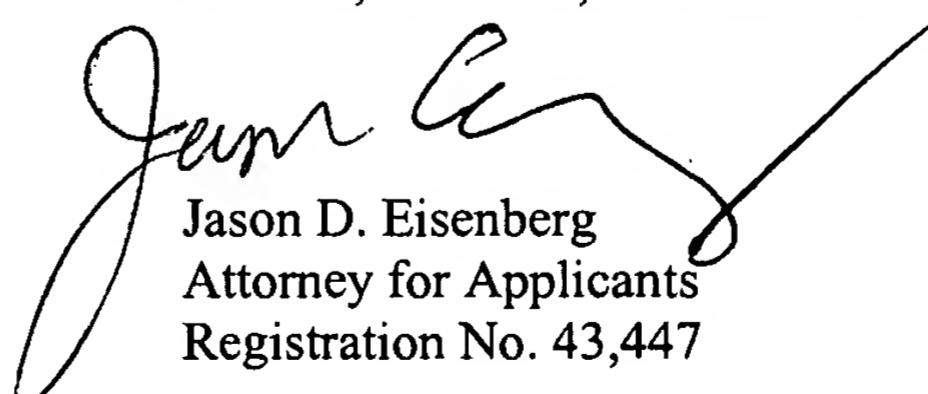
Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115;
2. Letter to PTO Draftsman: Submission of Formal Drawings For New Figs. 11A-11D); and
3. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Jason D. Eisenberg
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,447

JDE/crf
Enclosure



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

McCullough *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/667,387

Filed: September 23, 2003

For: **Illumination System With Spatially
Controllable Partial Coherence
Compensating For Line Width
Variances in a Photolithographic
System**

Confirmation No.: 9380

Art Unit: 2851

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1857.1040003

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

This Preliminary Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.